

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before line 3, insert the following heading:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

Page 3, between lines 6 and 7, insert the following heading:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

Page 5, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following heading:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--

Page 5, between lines 14 and 15, insert the following heading:

--DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--

Page 7, replace the paragraph beginning on line 23 and bridging pages 7 and 8 with the following amended paragraph:

-- According to a particularly advantageous variant of embodiment shown by the dotted line in figure 4, the free ends of arms ~~11b~~ 11a of the first pair 11 of arms are joined to the respective free ends of arms ~~12b~~ 12a of the second pair 12 of arms by a connecting bar 23, so that the rotation of the first arm 11a of the first pair 11 caused by actuation of ram 19 simultaneously drives in rotation the first arm 12a of the second pair 12. In this respect it will be noted that arms 11a and 12a of pairs 11 and 12 project beyond the rear of platform 1 to allow the passing of the connecting bar 23 behind the platform when it is moved from the lower level 3 to the upper level 4 and the

reverse, said connecting bar 23 extending along the plane of platform 1 when the latter is located at the level of lower sidebars 7, 7' of frame 5.--